

Note: This meeting scheduled for 26 September 2002 was postponed until 28 September 2002. Actual date of meeting 28 September 2002.

St. Paul Island RAB Agenda
26 September 2002

- 8:30 a.m. - 8:40 a.m. ✓ Opening and Introductions Island RAB Chair
Distribution of April 4, 2002 RAB minutes for review
- 8:40 a.m. - 8:50 a.m. ✓ Public Comments/Modifications to Agenda
- 8:50-9:15: ✓ Pribilof Island Restoration Budget Overview for FY02 (Lindsay)
- 9:15-9:45 ✓ NOAA Cleanup Activities During Summer of 2002 (BSE/Barnea)
Old Movie Theater
Former Power Plant
Decommissioned Power Plant
Petroleum Contaminated Soil Treatment
- 9:45-10:00 ✓ Diesel Seep Environmental Assessment and Dredging
(Lindsay/Murray)
- 10:00-10:15 ✓ Break
- 10:15-10:30 Landfill Planning and Design Grant (ADEC/NOAA)
- 10:30-11:30 Landfill Closure – Solid Waste Management Needs (Round Table)
- 11:30-11:45 NOAA Plans for remainder of 2002 and 2003 (Lindsay)
- 11:45 –12:00 (noon) Public Comments/Next Meeting/Adjourn

**Pribilof Islands Restoration Advisory Board Meeting
September 28, 2002
St. Paul Island, Alaska**

Attending: John Lindsay, Nir Barnea, Greg Gervais, Laura Murray, NOAA; Mark Ridgway, U.S. Coast Guard; Louis Howard, Leslie Simmons, ADEC; Myron Melovidov, Andrey Mandregan, Phyllis Swetzof, Faith Ruko, City of St. Paul; Richard Zacharof, Phillip Zavadil, Tribal Government of St. Paul; Elary Gromoff, Bill Arteburn, Julianna R. Shane, Damian Bourdukofsky, Quintin Kochutin, Michael Baldwin, Bering Sea Eccotech; Jason Bourdukofsky, Aquilina D. Lestenkof, St. Paul At-large; Jacob N. Mercurief, Diodor Stepetin, Concerned Citizens, Ron Philemonoff, Victor N. Mercurief, Sr., Anthony Philemonoff, TDX (via teleconference from Anchorage).

9:30 Opening and Introductions/Island RAB Chair/Distribution of April 4, 2002 minutes for review

Mr. Jason Bourdukofsky was chosen as the RAB chairman for St. Paul Island. He asked if there were any modifications to the agenda. Mr. Ron Philemonoff asked (via phone) to add the machine shop/old equipment building to the agenda. Mr. Myron Melovidov asked to review the old gasoline tank storage site. The RAB approved the agenda.

9:35 Pribilof Island Restoration Budget Overview for FY02

Mr. John Lindsay of NOAA reviewed the budget and expenses for fiscal year 2002. Mr. Lindsay declined to discuss how much money is specifically spent on each island, as it creates tension about amounts per island. NOAA's Pribilof Islands Environmental Restoration Project had an appropriation of 6 million dollars for fiscal year 2002 and a carryover of 2.46 million dollars from the previous fiscal year. However, a large portion of the latter amount was spent early in the fiscal year to pay contractors for work completed. Mr. Lindsay mentioned that he might need to hire one or two new engineers, as the Pribilof Project Office intended to have four engineers employed and now has only two. Mr. Lindsay stated that the Pribilof Project Office reduced the amount of money spent on salaries from the past. New equipment made up a portion of the fiscal year 2002 budget. Stainless steel manifolds for the Enhanced Thermal Conduction unit, a Geoprobe for taking soil samples at deeper depths, and a survey grade Global Positioning System to more accurately map excavations and site work were the major purchases.

NOAA Cleanup Activities During Summer of 2002

Mr. Nir Barnea of NOAA presented a summary of cleanup work completed during the summer of 2002. Mr. Barnea explained that the projects and the ETC are a cooperative effort between NOAA and BSE, so Ms. Julie Shane would follow with a presentation about the work process. First, Mr. Barnea explained what the ETC is (Enhanced Thermal Conduction). The ETC unit heats soil to vaporize contamination and

burns the contaminants in an oxidizer. During the 2000 field season, 2500 cyd³ were treated, and 48% of the soil passed. During the 2001 field season, 1500 cyd³ were treated and 91% of the soil passed. So far, during the 2002 field season, 3500 cyd³ have been treated, 2030 cyd³ have passed, and 1000 cyd³ are pending. Mr. Barnea also presented a bar graph representing the number of cells treated and the portion of each cell that passed screening.

Mr. Bourdukofsky asked why it is that particular cells don't pass screening. Mr. Barnea explained that during the first year of ETC activities, it was difficult to keep the temperature in the correct range for successfully treating soils. Ms. Shane added that steel and concrete is no removed from the soils prior to treating in cells. This procedure was not done (or requested) during the first two years of ETC work. Mr. Myron Melovidov asked how much more soil requires treatment, and Ms. Shane answered that the stockpile grows and diminishes as soils are treated and more sites are excavated. Mr. Bourdukofsky asked how many more years of soil treatment are required for St. Paul Island. Mr. Lindsay said that he and Mr. Barnea estimated around 5-6 more cells from the current stockpile, plus 50-60,000 cyd³ that have not yet been excavated from various sites.

Mr. Michael Baldwin of BSE explained the process of building a cell to the RAB. He showed pictures of the burner and oxidizer system, and described how they function to treat contaminated soils. Mr. Barnea displayed an animation of ETC Treatment, while Mr. Baldwin explained the process of treating and sampling soil. Treated soil is then hauled to the landfill where it's used for capping the disposal areas.

Mr. Myron Melovidov asked how much diesel fuel is required to run the system. Mr. Baldwin answered that the burner uses 1,000 gal every 24 hours. Ms. Leslie Simmons of ADEC asked how long parts last before needing replacement, specifically the pipes. Mike answered that the pipes do not need replacing often, but smaller components like valves need replacing on a regular basis.

Mr. Barnea presented the corrective action plans that were completed during the 2002 field season. The sites treated using corrective action plans were the Old Movie Theater, the Decommissioned Power Plant, and the Former Power Plant.

The Old Movie Theater site contained diesel contamination from a tank used to heat the building. The site was small and relatively simple. Less than 30 cyd³ of petroleum-contaminated soils were removed and treated. Sampling indicated that the site is clean.

The Former Power Plant site included contamination from fuel tanks and pipes used for power generation several decades ago. Nearly 400 cyd³ were removed and treated. At the time of the meeting, not all sample results were reported from the laboratory. Thus, PSI Environmental was not able to make a conclusion about whether or not the site was cleaned sufficiently.

At the Decommissioned Power Plant site, contaminated stemmed from a fuel tank used for power generation. Nearly 250 cyd³ were removed from the site and treated. The fuel tank causing the contamination sits underneath the building rather than perpendicular to it like at most other sites. The site was restored to grade, and sampling results are pending. Mr. Baldwin asked what the depth of the excavation was, and Mr. Barnea answered that it was 10-15 feet deep. Mr. Bourdukofsky asked if the tank would be removed in the future, and Mr. Barnea affirmed that it would. Mr. Barnea added that

only the soil was treated this year, and the tank would be treated at a later date. Mr. Bourdukofsky also asked what it means that the sample results are pending. Mr. Barnea answered that not all the data has been received from the laboratory at this point. Mr. Bourdukofsky stated that he was concerned that the site will be considered clean and that the tank would be left in the soil. Mr. Barnea and Mr. Lindsay explained that the tank will be removed, and a corrective action plan for the work has already been written. The plan has been approved and will be submitted to Bering Sea Eccotech the following week in order for them to develop a cost estimate.

Mr. Michael Baldwin of BSE presented the work procedure for each site, as digital pictures were displayed on the screen.

10:15 Diesel Seep Environmental Assessment and Dredging

Mr. John Lindsay of NOAA gave an overview of the United States Army Corps of Engineers upcoming dredging work in the Salt Lagoon Channel. Potentially 1000 cyd³ of contaminated sediment may be dredged, dewatered and treated. The ADEC Water Quality Program and the federal Clean Water Act require an Environmental Assessment to be performed prior to environmental dredging. NOAA took the to prepare an Environmental Assessment for the Salt Lagoon Channel.

Ms. Laura Murray of NOAA presented an overview of the sediment sampling work carried out in the Salt Lagoon Channel the previous week. She discussed the benthic grab sampling and the SPMD deployment, and the various tests and analyses that will be performed on the samples. All sample results were pending. If contaminated sediments are found in the Salt Lagoon Channel, NOAA will pay for channel dredging and soil treatment in that area.

Mr. Jacob Mercurief asked for a definition of a polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbon (PAH). Ms. Murray explained it is a class of contaminants with chains of hydrocarbons not naturally found on St. Paul Island. Mr. Barnea thanked Mr. Shane for his assistance with the study.

Mr. Elary Gromoff asked if any groundwater samples had been taken from the Salt Lagoon area. Mr. Lindsay said that he has no plans to sample groundwater in the area. A question was raised about whether or not sampling techniques could trace when contamination occurred, and Mr. Lindsay said that they could not. Several members asked why diesel seep soils have not been removed and if NOAA plans removal of the contaminated soils in the future. Mr. Lindsay said that there are 5-6,000 cyd³ and that NOAA does not currently have sufficient funds to complete this project. He estimated that 2004 is the earliest possible time that the Diesel Seep could be treated.

Mr. Myron Melovidov asked who claim responsibility for contaminated sediments if any are found in the Salt Lagoon Channel. Mr. Lindsay stated that NOAA would pay for and treat contaminated sediments from the channel.

Mr. Ron Philemonoff asked if recontamination is possible if the channel is dredged before the diesel seep is treated. Mr. Lindsay answered that NOAA is in a difficult situation, as it has no control over the Corps of Engineers contractors and the project priorities for that agency. Ms. Aquilina Lestenkof suggested that government agencies coordinate efforts on the Diesel seep site and Salt Lagoon channel in order to prevent recontamination from occurring.

Mr. Andrey Mandregan asked if any groundwater monitoring was planned for Tract 46, and Mr. Lindsay stated that two rounds are planned if funding is available. A RAB member asked whether or not the results would most likely be above cleanup levels and Mr. Lindsay's opinion is that they will exceed cleanup levels.

11:00 Landfill Planning and Design Grant

Mr. Lindsay began this portion of the meeting by stating that 2 million dollars has been granted to the Pribilof Islands for landfill development. ADEC gave 1 million dollars to each island and did not deduct any funds for administration. Ms. Leslie Simmons of ADEC discussed landfill development on St. Paul Island. She stated that the state wishes that state, federal, and local government work together to plan and develop a landfill on St. Paul Island. Ms. Simmons said that NOAA is unable to close the current landfill until St. Paul and St. George have established their own landfills. Mr. Philemonoff asked what the state's reason was for splitting the funds evenly since St. Paul has five times the population of St. George. Ms. Simmons answered that the money was split evenly so that each community could successfully develop a working landfill. She stated that the state would try to seek the additional 8 million dollars allowed for landfill development, but no funding beyond that amount. Ms. Phyllis Swetsof of the City of St. Paul responded to Mr. Philemonoff that the million dollars might go farther toward landfill maintenance on St. George than on St. Paul.

The RAB voted to approve a motion to direct NOAA and ADEC to seek the remaining landfill funds authorized under Public Law 106-91 in the FY 2004 federal appropriation.

Mr. Elary Gromoff requested that the status of landfill development and funds be reported to the RAB at every meeting. Mr. Ron Philemonoff expressed his opinion that current landfill access is unfair, and that waste is stockpiled around town that should be disposed of in the construction and demolition monofill. He asked to hear the status of the C&D monofill. Ms. Phyllis Swetsof stated that the city has obtained a permit to open it, but has not developed a plan, which is required prior to use of the monofill. Ms. Faith Ruko and Ms. Phyllis Swetsof emphasized that the city is stockpiling construction and demolition debris internally.

Ms. Aquilina Lestenkof asked why fiberboard debris was burned without the burn box, at the quarry. Ms. Swetsof explained that the burn box had not been obtained at that time.

11:30 Landfill Closure – Solid Waste Management Needs

Mr. Elary Gromoff asked what type of permit would be needed intermittently if a private industry wished to burn commercial waste. Ms. Simmons answered that she would need to know several pieces of information prior to issuing a permit. First, she would need to know what was material required disposal. Also, she would need to know what would be done with the ash and the non-burnable materials. If there is less than 1,000 cyd³ of debris, there is an easily attainable permit. If there is more than 1,000 cyd³, it is much more difficult to obtain a permit. Ms. Aquilina Lestenkof asked how Trident obtained a permit to burn their waste. Ms. Simmons said that ADEC does not encourage

or regulate open burning. The Air Program is in charge of monitoring open burning, and usually all they require is notification of the burn, and information about what material is being burned.

Mr. Philemonoff asked if it's possible to plan for a long-term landfill, and Ms. Simmons reaffirmed that that is ADEC's goal for landfill development on St. Paul. Mr. Philemonoff asked about NOAA landfill closure, and Mr. Lindsay said that NOAA is placing a limit on the landfill, and not all waste can be accepted. Mr. Lindsay emphasized that landfill development is a community effort requiring all entities to work together. Thus far, all entities have agreed that there is a landfill problem, and they have cooperated to segregate various types of waste such as fiberboard, wood, and metal debris. Ms. Simmons stressed that the city needs to develop a reasonable landfill plan that they can maintain with their current finances. She mentioned that the city, due to the population drop, needs only a Class 3 landfill.

Mr. Diodor Stepetin voiced concerns about the location planned for the new landfill. He would prefer that the new landfill be placed adjacent to the current landfill, thus contaminating less land. The RAB explained to Mr. Stepetin that the location of the current landfill is in violation of the Federal Aviation Administration's 10-kilometer zone surrounding the airport, and that the new landfill must not violate FAA regulations.

Mr. Lindsay wished to discuss closure of the NOAA landfill. He stated that when the landfill has reached capacity, NOAA will not accept liability for additional household waste. Mr. Lindsay and Ms. Simmons agreed that the community is working together much better now in the past. Ms. Swetzoff added that when solid waste management became an issue the city prioritized landfill use. Household waste became the first priority, because residents have no other options for waste disposal. Ms. Simmons restated that the city should take a phased approach to the landfill issue. Mr. Philemonoff asked if there is city property for a small interim landfill, and if the landfill grant funding could pay for that. Ms. Simmons suggested it might be wiser to spend all of the funding on opening the new landfill. Mr. Jason Bourdukofsky asked if there were any more questions. Mr. Philemonoff asked when the NOAA landfill will be closed. Mr. Lindsay answered that he hopes to close cells A and B this year, and all debris from those cells will be consolidated into cell C.

12:00 NOAA Plans for remainder of 2002 and 2003

Mr. Lindsay reviewed the site work accomplished during the 2002 field season, as follows:

Landfill Closure Plan	Completed
PCS Stockpile Treatment	- estimated 3050 cyd ³ clean 3500 cyd ³ treated
Tract 46 Site Cleanup	
Underground Utility Survey	Not Performed
Decommissioned Power Plant	- est. 2100 cyd ³ DRO/act. 250
Former Power Plant	- est. 260 cyd ³ DRO/act. 46 0

Old Movie Theater	- est. 50 cyd ³ DRO/35
Alaska Dormitory	- est. 100 cyd ³ DRO/Not performed
Gas Station and Machine Shop	- est. 700 cyd ³ DRO/Not performed
Receiving Warehouse	- est. 150 cyd ³ DRO/Not performed

Focused Feasibility Studies:

Diesel Seep Site	- est. 12,000 cyd ³ DRO/ Not performed
Tract 46 Groundwater	- 10x rule applied
DRO	
GRO	
Benzene	

Lukanin Bay Petroleum Contaminated Soils Site - Not performed

Groundwater Monitoring – 2 quarters (e.g. June and September) – Not Performed

During the 2003 field season, NOAA plans to do the following:

Landfill Closure Cells A & B	Completed
------------------------------	-----------

PCS Stockpile Treatment	- 3000 cyd ³ prior soils
	- 3000 cyd ³ FY03 soils

Tract 46 Site Cleanup

Decommissioned Power Plant	- est. 500 cyd ³ DRO
Alaska Dormitory	- est. 400 cyd ³ DRO
Lots 101, 102, and 103 (UST & PCS)	- est. 750 cyd ³ DRO
E-Shop and Duplex (UST & PCS)	- est. 1000 cyd ³ DRO
West Landing Fuel Line PCS	- est. 400 cyd ³ DRO

ATCO characterization

Diesel Seep Dredging Obligation to Corps Eng.

Groundwater Monitoring – 2 quarters (e.g. June and September)

Off-island disposal of USTs, and ETC operations debris

Additionally, there are asbestos tiles on the ground surface of Tract 50, but site requires very little work to clean. Mr. Lindsay stated that NOAA is planning to ship all its waste from site work off island, rather than putting it into the landfill. Mr. Lindsay mentioned that these plans may require more money than NOAA has available. Mr. Jacob Mercurief asked which of the USTs will be first, and Mr. Lindsay answered that the UST at house 103 will be removed first, as that house will be given to the new priest. Mr. Philemonoff requested clarification on the budget that Mr. Lindsay was referring to, and Mr. Lindsay stated that 6.49 million dollars was being used as the basis for work plans. Mr. Philemonoff asked that if NOAA received 10 million dollars, would that add

to the sites NOAA could successfully treat. Mr. Lindsay affirmed that a budget of 10 million dollars would add considerably to the work plans for the upcoming year.

12:15 Coast Guard Report

Mr. Mark Ridgway of the United States Coast Guard reported on cleanup activities at the Coast Guard station. He summarized that .57 gallons of diesel fuel were being recovered per 1000 gallons of water treated, using the High Vapor Extraction System. Previously, 6 gallons of diesel fuel were recovered from every 1000 gallons of water treated. The recovery rate is now suitable for ADEC drinking water standards. The Coast Guard is planning to close down the HVE system by 2004. Their budget for fiscal year 2002 was 180,000, and it remains the same for fiscal year 2003. The Coast Guard now has a backup operator, Ralph, on St. Paul Island. The Coast Guard is now switching over to using city power, and within the next year or two will decommission tanks on site and thus remove any future source of contamination.

12:20 Old Machine Shop

Mr. Ron Philemonoff stated that he has corresponded with NOAA over the last several months and that TDX corporation would like NOAA to demolish the Machine Shop. He said it increases soil contamination and serves no real purpose in the town. He asked that NOAA either demolish it or allow TDX to do so. Mr. Lindsay stated that received a letter from TDX the previous day offering to demolish the building. Mr. Lindsay wanted to make clear that he personally supported TDX tearing down the building, but NOAA management must make the final determination. Mr. Lindsay promised to take this issue forward with NOAA management, and he has a meeting scheduled in the near future with the deputy undersecretary at which he hopes to present this issue.

Mr. Philemonoff stated that he had a resolution on this issue, which he then read to the RAB members. Mr. Lindsay asked that the resolution be forwarded to NOAA for addition to the minutes. Discussion ensued that determined that NOAA would be responsible for any contamination under the building. Ms. Aquilina Lestenkof asked if TDX had researched whether the Historic Preservation Act would have an impact on the machine shop demolition. Ms. Lestenkof asked that Mr. Philemonoff state that the community perspective would be obtained in the resolution. Mr. Lindsay pointed out that the letter from TDX states that it will follow the Historical Preservation Act policies in regards to machine shop.

Mr. Andrey Mandregan asked what will be done with the lead-based paint that is now peeling off the Machine Shop. Mr. Lindsay stated that NOAA is not responsible for that source of possible contamination. Mr. Myron Melovidov suggested that voting on the actual resolution may be premature. Ms. Lestenkof stated that the resolution will put TDX into position to begin the process of gaining community input and researching the Historical Preservation Act. Mr. Lindsay added that the Machine Shop is still structurally sound and therefore is not being demolished by NOAA of Public Law 104-91. Mr. Lindsay stated that NOAA is unaware if contamination exists under the building, but will

be able to investigate that issue next year using the equipment currently located on St. George Island.

The RAB passed a motion that the board will be supportive of the resolution for TDX to tear down the building.

The resolution reads as follows:

Resolution of the St. Paul Island Restoration Advisory Board

Whereas, the Restoration Advisory Board of St. Paul Island has been advised by the landowner, Tanadgusix Corporation of its intent to redevelop the area occupied by the Old Machine Shop/Equipment Shed building, and

Whereas, the land is required for future development and the corporation, as future landowner, has expressed its intent to demolish the building, and to redevelop the area,

Now therefore, be it resolved,

The Restoration Advisory Board of St. Paul hereby requests the permission and cooperation of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration to remove the building, and further requests that NOAA and DEC make plans to include any necessary remediation of the site that may be required in terms of underground contamination in excess of the permitted levels.

12:40 Gasoline Storage Tank Farm

Mr. Myron Melovidov wanted to revisit why there is a No Further Action letter for this site. He stated that only leaded gasoline was used at the time the tanks were located there, and he would like NOAA to reconsider the NFA for this site.

Mr. Jason Bourdukofsky asked that at the next meeting there be an update on NFA sites and TPA site status. Mr. Lindsay stated that at many of the TPA sites there are multiple numbered sites, so that NOAA can obtain closure letters on portions of the TPA sites completed. This procedure is crucial for obtaining future funding. There are 55 sites located on St. Paul Island, and 32 sites on St. George Island. Currently, approximately 50% of sites on St. Paul could be closed with proper documentation.

At this point, the Gasoline Tank Farm was addressed, per Mr. Melovidov's previous inquiry. Mr. Lindsay stated that it was tested twice and the results were below cleanup levels on both occasions. Mr. Melovidov wanted to know the sample depth. Mr. Lindsay clarified that NOAA typically samples down to refusal, which is essentially bedrock. Mr. Lindsay stated that the plans and closure reports were submitted to the community and state for this site and everything was accepted. If in the future contamination is found at this site, NOAA is obligated to come back and clean up the site. In other words, site closure is conditional.

12:45 Public comments/Next meeting/Adjourn

The RAB should note that TPA site and landfill status should be addressed in the next meeting.

Mr. Phillip Zavadil inquired as to whether there were any plans to remove the Old Movie Theater building. Mr. Lindsay stated that it is on private property, and thus is not NOAA's decision or responsibility.

The date for the next RAB meeting was discussed. Mr. Lindsay informed the St. Paul RAB about the tentative plans the St. George RAB members had agreed upon (February 14, 2003), based on the timing of the Alaska Forum on the Environment. Several RAB members expressed that they had prior commitments for that week, so alternate dates were discussed. Mr. Philemonoff suggested that the RAB meet in March or April, so that the amount of funding available would be known for certain at the time of the meeting. Mr. Lindsay stated that in order to allow enough time for Corrective Action Plans to be completed for summer field season, earlier in the spring is favorable over later. Mr. Lindsay explained that NOAA will pay for community members to attend the meeting in Anchorage, but that people must apply for that privilege in advance, rather than seek reimbursement. Mr. Lindsay deferred the final arrangements for the next RAB meeting time to discussion between the RAB chairmen of each island.

The motion to adjourn the meeting passed at 12:55 pm.